Air India agains; regular vacancies in various airports is as under: —

Bombay... 134 Madras... 16

Calcutta... Nil Trivandrum.. 4

Delhi... 94

(b) Casual labourers are engaged on day-to-day basis. Requirements of casual labourers are informed to the Employment Exchange also.

(c) and (d) While Air India is making all efforts to avoid employment of casual labourers it will not be possible altogether to stop this. However, Air India has absorbed 111 casual labourers on permanent basis in unskilled categories in Bombay and Calcutta against regular vacancies so far.

Employment of Dependents of Deceased Employees in Air India

2805. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of dependents of deceased employees who have been given permanent employment on compassionate grounds by Air India during the years 1988, 1989 and 1990;

(b) how many of them have been employed after creating additional posts and how many are employed against regular vacancies in the normal course; and

(c) what are the details in this regard, post-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) Details of dependents ' of deceased employees who have been given permanent employment are given below: —

1988 ... 9
1989 ... 12
1990 ... 3(up till now)

(b) All of them have been employed against regular vacancy in the normal course.

(c) Post-wise details are given below: —

Year	Total Employed	Category
1988	9	Two General Clerks One Asstt. Stn. Suptd. Six loaders
1989	12	Two General Clerks Three Cleaners Six traffic asstts. One handyman
1990	3	One cleaner One loader One handyman

Co-operative Society for Employment of widows in Air India

2806. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has formed a Co-operattve Society for employment of widows of deceased employees;

(b) if so, whether the management of the Society is given on contract basis;

(c) what are the details of the system of payment to the members of the Society; and

(d) what is the monthly average earning of a member of this Society ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIA- | TION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. i KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Society makes payment to the members on the basis of piece rate as well as on monthly/daily rate basis. The monthly average earning of the members vary according to the job performed.

Purity of edible salt

2807. SHRI SAMAR MUKH-ERJEE: will the Minister of INDUS-TRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum dated the 22nd July, 1990, has been received by Government from the Academy of Nutrition Improvement, Nagpur, regarding increase in the purity of edible salt;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the memorandum;

(c) what is the reaction of Gover-ment thereto;

(d) whether it is a fact that puri-fication of common salt from the existing 96 percent to 98 percent would make this essential item more costly; and

(e) whether the reasons mooted for raising the purity are backed by scientific study and health needs ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir. (b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) Central Salt & Maring Chemicals Research Institute, Bhavnagar had suggested to increase the sodium chloride content in common salt from 96% to 98%. However, there is no pioposal with the Government for implementation of the suggestion. In case the sodium chloride content in common salt is increased from 96% to 98% Salt may become costlier.

Memorandum from the Small Hand Tools Manufacturing Association, Jalandhar, Punjab

2808. SHRI SAMAR MUKHER-JEE: will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Small Hand Tools Manufacturing Association, Industrial Area, Jalandhar, Punjab;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the said memorandum; and

(c) what is the reaction of Go vernment there to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) and (b) A letter dt. 14. 10. 88 from Small Hand Tools Manufacturing Association, Jalandhar was received by the Office of the DC (SSI). The allegations were against the Principal Director Central Institute of Hand Tools (CIHT), Jalandhar, and are:

(1) Incorrect recording of minutes of the 12th Governing Council Meeting of CIHT, Jalandhar.

(2) Taking Government car to Hoshiarpur daily.

(3) Doing Private Trading.

(4) Making wrong in selection of staff.

(5) Sending material without payment.